

180TH FIGHTER WING, OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD, TOLEDO, OH

# THE STINGER

VOLUME 48, Issue 4 APRIL 2009

## NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

PRESENTED BY THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE



### COMMANDER'S COMMENTS:

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING PERFORMERS...P.2

AUGUST IS OHIO ANG'S FIRST FEMALE VICE COMMANDER...P. 3

180TH MEMBER SAVES A LIFE...P. 4

1ST 180TH MEMBER RETURNS FROM 8 1/2 WEEKS OF BMT...P. 5

THE HOMEFRONT...P. 7

# COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

## RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING PERFORMERS

**By Chief Master Sgt. Rich Michalak**  
**Chief Enlisted Manager, Logistics Readiness Squadron**

During my undergraduate years at the University of Toledo, one of my professors would constantly remind his students that, "Good work should be acknowledged, and good workers should be rewarded."

When subordinates start to drift the wrong way, management has an obligation to correct the situation. There are several reasons why this needs to occur. Safety might be an issue. Producing bad products or creating a negative environment in the work area may be another. For whatever the reason, changes need to happen.

There are several steps that can occur to assist the individuals to get back on track. Counseling, a letter of reprimand, or maybe even a demotion may be administered.

There are rules for guidance for supervisors that assist them when dealing with negative behavior. However, what about the outstanding workers that distinguish themselves above the rest? What are we doing for them? There are no rules or regulations that require supervisors to acknowledge this type of behavior. It is up to each individual supervisor to identify these actions and choose to reward or not.

There are several ways to reward individuals for outstanding performance. During the Operational Readiness Inspections and the Unit Compliance Inspections, inspectors will observe who the outstanding performers are and add those names to the final report. Usually, a certificate is given to the individual. When 180<sup>th</sup> members assist other bases as Exercise Evaluation Team Members, the Commander of the base assisted may send a letter of appreciation to the members' base. Locally, we have the Airman, NCO, and Senior NCO of



**Chief Master Sgt. Rich Michalak**  
**Chief Enlisted Manager, Logistics Readiness Squadron**

the year awards. These awards are limited and not everyone recommended for these awards will be awarded them. There are ways to ensure that your outstanding performers can be rewarded. Team Player certificates endorsed by the Commander, letters of appreciation, letters of recommendation, and identifying individuals for superior performance at roll call are a few. Another way to recognize these individuals is to submit them for a decoration. Some people might say that writing decorations is time-consuming and the format it needs to be submitted in is very tedious.

However, times have changed and there are now new procedures for this process. No longer do you have to have a Décor 6 requested and endorsed. All ribbons are now funneled through the Virtual Personnel Center-Guard-Reserve (VPC-GR) on the Air Force Portal. There is no longer a requirement to submit two or three outstanding performance items for Air Force Achievement medals or Air Force Commendation

medals. If the supervisor believes that the individual's performance is worthy of one of these awards, a statement of justification with the positive effects this performance achieved is all that is necessary. The Meritorious Service Medal is the exception to the rule. This still requires at least four outstanding performance actions with the results they achieved. Once the justification is completed, the request is electronically sent to the 180<sup>th</sup> Military Personnel Flight for review and approval. They will make any corrections if needed, if they can, and send it on to the Wing Commander for final approval. If they are unable to make the corrections, they will send it back to the requestor with annotations as to how to make it right.

In the Logistics Readiness Squadron, the Commander has appointed an awards monitor to assist supervisors when rewarding outstanding performers. I have made a recommendation that the names of those that receive decorations be published in the Stinger or in a quarterly report from Personnel Flight. I have never met a military member who was not proud of their ribbons. Just about every resume that I have looked at, whether it was for a technician job announcement or a military promotion board, had a copy of ribbons that were awarded to the applicant in it. I am not saying that every action deserves to be rewarded, but consistent, exceptional actions should be acknowledged and rewarded. Awarding our outstanding performers is important in achieving a more positive effect on workplace attitude and could increase retention.

If you have any questions or if you need assistance when nominating someone for a decoration you can consult AFI 36-2803 or call the Military Personnel Flight at extension 4015.



# AUGUST FIRST FEMALE VICE COMMANDER IN OHIO ANG

**DISTINCTION NOT AS IMPORTANT AS GETTING THE JOB DONE, SHE SAYS**

**By Tech Sgt Annette R. Kornasiewicz, Public Affairs**

When Col. Nancy August became the 180<sup>th</sup> Vice Commander January 1, 2009, she also assumed the distinction of being the first female to do so in the Ohio Air National Guard. What is her message to all members in the military in light of her accomplishment? Male or female, do your best job, always.

"It is not about gender. It is about doing the best job you can do every day. It is about taking care of people. It is about treating all personnel with respect. It is about core values. It is about staying relevant and managing change. It is about being part of the team," said August. "My goal has always been to make a positive contribution to the Air Force and the Ohio Air National Guard and to go as far as I could."

And excel in her career she

did. In fact, August says she is most proud of making Staff Sgt. in less than four years on active duty. Throughout her Air Force experience that began when she enlisted in 1967 there have been many "lessons learned," along the way. August suggests that we be ready to turn those lessons into opportunities.

"This is your career. Be involved. Be proactive and pay attention to what is going on in your career field, at the unit and the Air National Guard. It is a given that you need to accomplish your Professional Military Education timely, regardless if you are enlisted or officer," said August. "But you also need to focus on leadership opportunities and be prepared for when the opportunity presents itself. Always do a good job for yourself as a person and maintain personal accountability."

August's life work and philosophy can serve as an inspi-



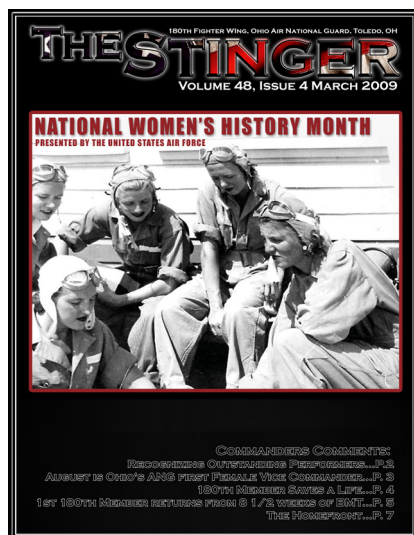
Photo by Senior Airman Jodi Leininger, Public Affairs

**Col. Nancy August**  
**180th FW Vice Commander**

ration for all servicemembers, challenging us to excel in our Guard careers.

"The fact that I am first female is a coincidence; I may be the first, but I won't be the last," said August.

## ON THE COVER



The Air Force celebrates National Women's History Month with a poster featured on Air Force Links created by Staff Sgt. Michele Thomas of the Air Force News Agency

## Promotions

### Senior Master Sgt.

Matthew Crow  
Victor Walker

### Master Sgt.

Robert Kimpel

### Tech. Sgt.

Jeffery Bobak, Jr.  
Jonathan Carroll

### Staff Sgt.

Bryan Miller  
Daniel Florea  
Geoffre Schwiebert

### Senior Airman

Derek Nichols  
Tyran Boyd

# FEATURE 180TH MEMBER HELPS SAVE A LIFE

**By Tech Sgt Annette R. Kornasiewicz, Public Affairs**

Staff Sgt. Carl V. Stahl, III, Security Forces member, received a Red Cross Certificate of Recognition at their Toledo Chapter March 11, 2009 for "Extraordinary Personal Action" for providing self-aid buddy care to a man injured in an automobile accident that occurred in 2007.

It was shortly after midnight on July 21, 2007. Stahl was leaving a restaurant when he witnessed a high-speed accident involving three vehicles on West Alexis Road in Toledo, Ohio, he said. A van struck the rear of one car, which then swerved and hit another vehicle head-on. Stahl turned to a friend and told him to call 911, as he jumped into his car to stop traffic on the very busy street.

"The cars were smoking heavily and I feared they would catch on fire," said Stahl.

Stahl checked on the driver of one vehicle, and it was obvious the man was suffering from two compound, complex fractures of his lower right leg. The man also had an injury to his hand and was bleeding. Stahl said he used towels to control the bleeding in both areas, then applied direct pressure to the victim's femoral artery to slow the bleeding to his leg.

"I continued to talk to him and keep him alert," said Stahl, while he and another bystander covered the man to keep him from going into shock.

When Toledo Fire and Rescue crews arrived at the scene, they asked Stahl to continue his efforts to control the bleeding of the man's lower leg as they worked to stabilize the patient.

"I squatted by the victim while continuing to keep direct pressure. Broken glass shards were everywhere. I was kneeling on the passenger seat and had lacerated my knees with the glass there," said Stahl.

Stahl helped the paramedics splint the wounded leg and extract the man from the car, and stayed with the victim until he was transported to a lo-



Photo by Master Sgt. Edward Wagner, Security Forces

**Staff Sgt. Carl Stahl, 180th Fighter Wing Security Forces, was honored by the Greater Toledo Area American Red Cross Chapter March 11. Staff Sgt Stahl was presented with a Certificate of Recognition at the chapter office for Extraordinary Personal Action after he aided in stabilizing a seriously injured driver at the scene of a car accident until rescue crews arrived.**

cal hospital.

"I didn't get nervous the entire time," said Stahl. "I just kept thinking about what would happen if I didn't act."

Perhaps Stahl learned how to keep cool in tense situations from his past experiences. He was a police officer for the Village of Elmore and Washing-

ton Township before coming to the 180th, and has also been deployed as a Marine to Kuwait, Somalia, and also supported Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

"We are all very proud of him," said Senior Master Sgt. John Rodgers, Operations Superintendent of Security Forces.



# FIRST 180TH MEMBER COMPLETES 8 1/2 WEEK BMT

**By Tech. Sgt. Annette R. Kornasiewicz, Public Affairs**

Airman 1st Class Sean D. Chubner, assigned as a crew chief for the Maintenance Squadron, returned in February as the first member of the 180th FW to graduate from the lengthened Air Force Basic Military Training. Chubner was a member of the third class to complete the redesigned BMT model, which changed in November, 2008, from 6 ½ to 8 ½ weeks.

"Once I got through, I was really grateful that I had gone through the extended version," said Chubner. "I got more hands-on training with the weaponry and more time during 'The Beast' week."

"The Beast," explained Chubner, is a week of War Games in which you learn skills such as Self-Aid Buddy Care, how to perform in a tactical march and how to build a defensive fighting position.

"Before, it was more of a training week, but now there was time to apply the knowledge you were taught in the classroom," said Chubner.

Although he did not have the experience of comparing what he went through versus the shorter version of BMT, Chubner said he would not have traded it for anything.

"The end result is that you are just better prepared," he said. "They want you to be the best Airman possible, and I think the training reflects that."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Elizabeth Holliker, Public Affairs

**Airman 1st Class Sean D. Chubner, assigned as a crew chief for the Maintenance Squadron, is the first member of the 180th to graduate from the lengthened 8 1/2 week Air Force Basic Military Training. The new course replaces the instruction regimen that has been in place since the 1960s.**

## FYI AIR FORCE NEWS

### Single 800 number now available for all Airmen

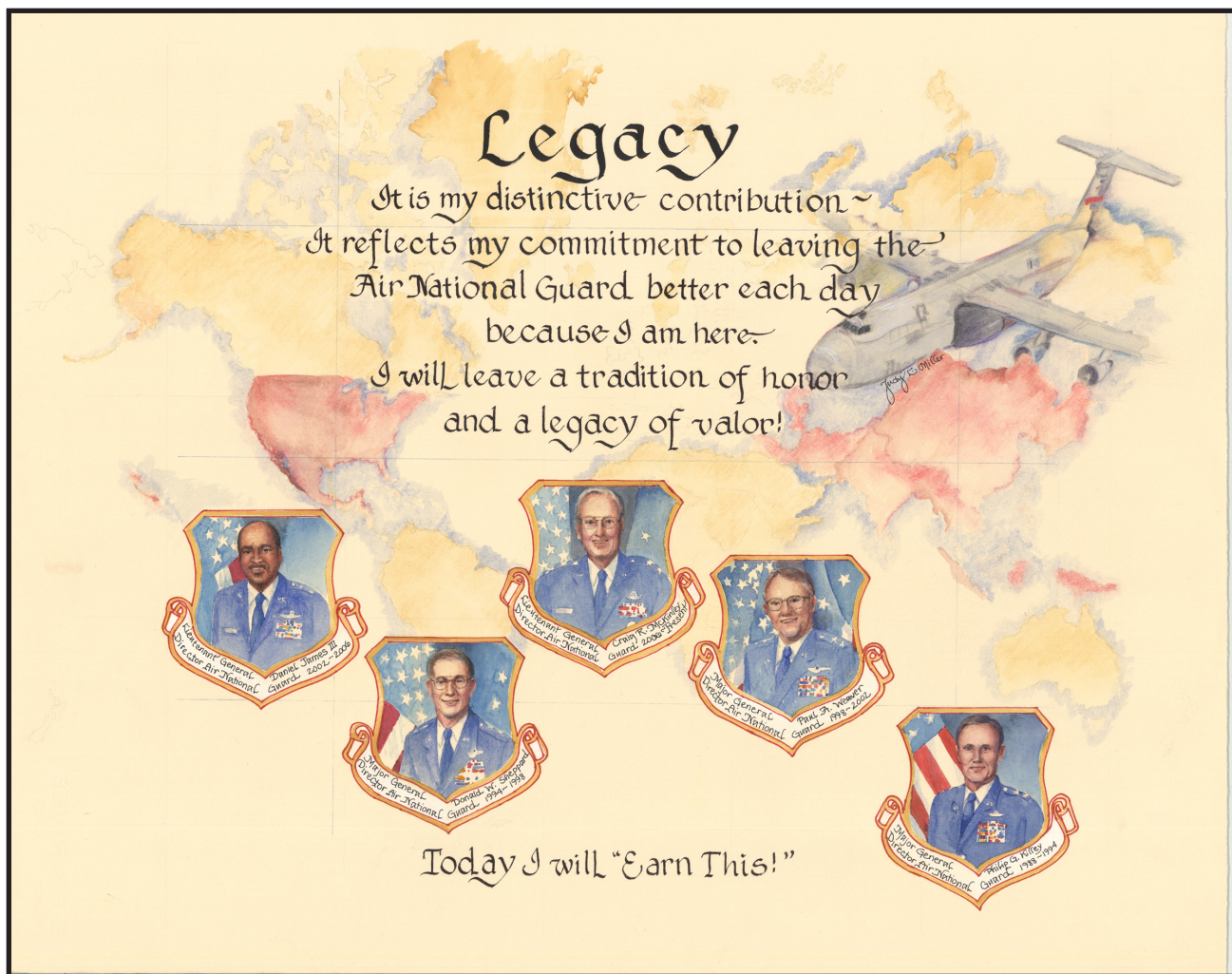
Regular Air Force, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, civilian and retired Airmen can now call the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102 to reach a customer service counselor to discuss issues ranging from retraining, promotions and identification cards to leave, retirements and civilian benefits.

The single number is a first step toward the Total Force Service Center, or TFSC, concept. This concept provides Airmen seamless access to personnel information and services regardless of the organization or system actually providing it. With the single number, the ARPC and AFPC contact centers become virtually connected, making it easier for all Airmen to reach their needed personnel services.

Airmen and their families also can find answers to many of their personnel questions at AFPC's <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil> or ARPC's <http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil> <[http://](http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil)> .

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123135586>.

# HUMAN RESOURCES Diversity Poster of the Month



## ARPC explains early retired pay procedure

**By Master Sgt. J.C. Woodring**  
**Air Reserve Personnel Center Public Affairs**

3/6/2009 - **DENVER** — Air Reserve Personnel Center officials are finalizing procedures for validating the receipt of retired pay before Citizen Airmen turn 60 years old. Since Jan. 28, 2008, Guard and Reserve Airmen can reduce the age they receive retirement pay by three months for each aggregate of 90-day period of qualifying active duty served in any fiscal year, but they cannot receive retired pay before age 50. Specific details are available [online](#).

ARPC officials are working with counterparts at the Air Force Personnel Center to add a field into the Military Personnel Data System so Airmen can see their estimated retired pay date.

"Until there is an automated way to track the information, our ARPC retirement technicians are reviewing personnel and finance records to see if Citizen Airmen qualify to receive their pay early. In most cases we hope to never ask a Citizen Airman to validate their service. Our testing shows that we can often determine the correct information from current finance and personnel systems. Only when these systems are inaccurate will we need the member's help."

So far, six people are already eligible to receive their retired pay before they turned 60. Information in MilPDS indicates more than 250 Citizen Airmen who are awaiting pay at age 60 may already be eligible for reduced pay age, ARPC officials said. After reviewing these records, ARPC retirement technicians will contact those who are eligible.

If Citizen Airmen are approaching retirement and believe they are entitled to get their pay early, they can call 800-525-0102 and discuss the specifics of their participation with retirement experts to validate their eligibility for early retired pay.

For more information, call 800-525-0102 or visit [www.arpc.afrc.af.mil](http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil)





# THE HOMEFRONT

Family Programs Office  
Judy York, Wing Family Program Coordinator  
Judy.york@ohtole.ang.af.mil  
419-868-4550 or 1-800-495-4250 ext. 4550  
Cell 419-356-5841  
Available 24/7 for information, referral and emergency assistance

## Golf outing to honor 2nd Lt. David J. Mitchell

Kristi Mitchell is hosting a memorial golf outing in 2nd. Lt. David J. Mitchell's honor on June 6, 2009 at the St. Denis Golf Course in Chardon, Ohio. Please register by phone by contacting Jim Wochele at (216) 536-6360, or by email at DavidJMitchellGolf@yahoo.com. All proceeds will go directly to the Luke Air Force Base Fighter Country Partnership, which is the organization that directly assisted Kristi with food, money and plane tickets immediately after Mitchell's death in 2008.

## Military Family Fun Day scheduled in Wauseon

The Fulton County Chapter of the American Red Cross and Wauseon VFW Post 7424 invites servicemembers to attend a Military Family Fun Day scheduled for Sunday, April 26th from 12:30 to 4 p.m. at 1133 N. Ottokee St. in Wauseon, Ohio. The event is free, and boasts entertainment, children's crafts, food and door prizes. Please call (419) 335-4636 or (419) 335-0591 for more information.

## 2009 Tax Preparation Announcement for Military Members

You have many choices when the time comes to file your 2008 tax return. We have highlighted 3 programs which offer free or discounted tax services. Each program has its own eligibility criteria. **Operation: CPA** - CPAs from throughout Ohio have volunteered their time and expertise to prepare 2008 tax returns free of charge for deployed Ohio residents this filing season. Military personnel who are Ohio residents *currently deployed outside of the state*, (not necessarily deployed to combat theater) will qualify for free preparation of their 2008 individual or joint local, state and federal personal tax returns. To take part in *Operation CPA*, qualified service personnel or their spouse or family member may call The Ohio Society of CPAs toll-free at 888.959.1212 or e-mail [cpanswers@ohio-cpa.com](mailto:cpanswers@ohio-cpa.com). Military personnel will be matched with a CPA volunteer from their area.

**Military OneSource** - Military OneSource offers free tax preparation services through the H&R Block TaxCut program. Those eligible for the program are active duty, Guard and Reserve (regardless of activation status), spouses and dependent children (authorized in DEERS), family members handling the affairs of a deployed service member, and severely injured service members or family members handling their affairs. To take part you must register by going online to Military OneSource at [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com)

**Collins & Associates Military Appreciation Drive** - During this year's tax season Collins & Associates will prepare 2008 tax returns free of charge for any Ohio or Michigan residents who are members of the armed forces (Active Duty as well as National Guard & Reserve Members), no matter their deployment status. They will also reduce their normal preparation fees by \$60 for all US Armed Services veterans. For each military return prepared, Collins & Associates will donate \$10 to military & veteran friendly non-profit organizations, Heroes In Action or Vets, Inc. To take part in the *Military Appreciation Drive*, qualified service personnel, their spouse or family member may call Bill Huckaby at 734-854-2926 or email at [WmFHuckaby@aol.com](mailto:WmFHuckaby@aol.com) for more information.

## Opportunities for single and married servicemembers

Single servicemembers of the Army and Air Guard can attend free fun and interactive life skills training events scheduled for April, June and July in Ohio. For more information, please contact Chaplain Nicholas Chou at (614) 208-2325 or [nicholas.a.chou@us.army.mil](mailto:nicholas.a.chou@us.army.mil). Married couples can enrich their union by attending a Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program workshop or a Lasting Intimacy through Nurturing, Knowledge and Skills weekend. For locations and dates, please visit [www.ong.ohio.gov/family](http://www.ong.ohio.gov/family).



## ***Letter to Airmen***

***Michael B. Donley***  
***Secretary of the Air Force***

Tuesday, February 17, 2009 Diversity

The strength of the Air Force comes from our people - and in large measure from our diversity. We join together from all walks of life to collectively serve our Nation and its flag. Whether Regular, Reserve, Guard or Civilian, all of us take pride in our service, pledging that every action reflects our personal best. We also take pride in each other, bound through our common duty to perform the mission and perform it well.

Our motivations to serve are unique. But in joining the Air Force team, each of us commits to the Air Force core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do. It is from our collective obligation to these core values that the Total Force draws its greatest strength. We respect and embrace the diversity of our teammates - recognizing that all are important, and all are valued. Our varied backgrounds and skill sets have prepared us to meet any challenge the Air Force may confront.

Across the Service, we represent a broad range of diverse missions, family situations, ethnicities, faiths, races and educational backgrounds. Yet together, this rich tapestry forms the world's finest Air Force drawn from the best talent that America has to offer. I am proud of the work you do on behalf of our great country.

Each of us brings a rich heritage, unique experience and compelling personal story - and we are proud of that diversity. As we join together in public service, I encourage you to learn from each other and draw from the unique strengths that your teammates bring to our Service and the Nation.

The Air Force continues to *fly, fight and win* in air, space and cyberspace with some of the most sophisticated equipment known to humankind, but it is you - America's Airmen and civilians - who are the Air Force's heart and soul. Thank you for all that you and your families do, and for your continuing support in leveraging the vast scope of our diverse backgrounds to ensure we remain the world's finest Air Force.

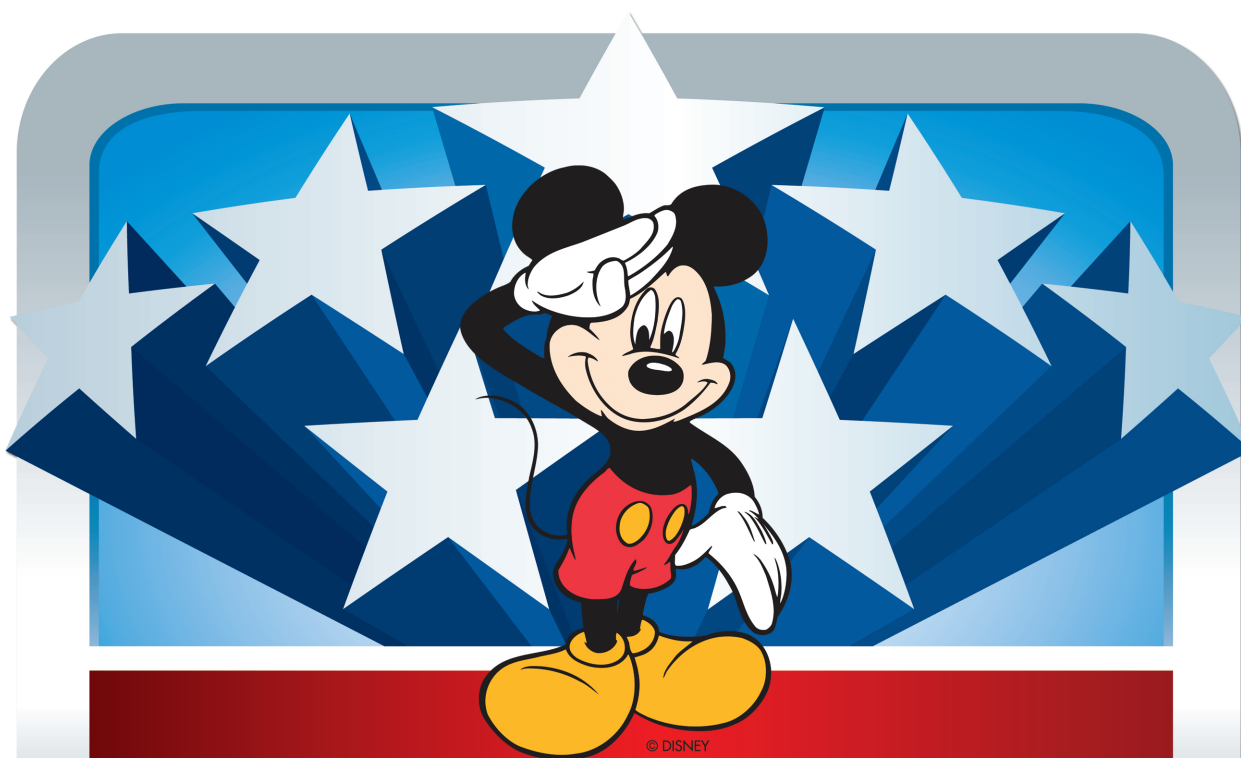
  
Michael B. Donley  
Secretary of the Air Force



**Military One Source - 800-342-9647**  
**Ohio Cares - 800-791-0868**  
**VA-Veteran's Administration - 800-273-8255**  
**National Suicide Line - 800-784-2433**



**1-800-SUICIDE**



**JANUARY 4 - DECEMBER 23, 2009**

WALT DISNEY World Resort  
**Salutes The U.S. Military With A**  
**FREE FIVE-DAY**  
**TICKET**

Disney's  
**ARMED FORCES SALUTE**

Active and Retired U.S. Military personnel may obtain one complimentary 5-Day Disney's Armed Forces Salute Ticket with *Park Hopper*® and *Water Park Fun & More* Options and may purchase up to five 5-Day Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion tickets (one theme park per day) for \$99 per ticket, tax not included.

Disney's Armed Forces Salute tickets for *Walt Disney World*® Resort can be obtained at participating military base ticket offices, including Shades of Green Resort at *Walt Disney World*® or at Main Entrance theme park ticket windows. Tickets are not valid until activated at the theme park ticket window. Tickets and options must be used by December 23, 2009.

Valid military ID required. See your military base ticket office for details.



**From the State of Ohio  
Adjutant General's Dept.**

**Please refer to the  
MEMORANDUM  
29 December 2008**

**Ohio National Guard  
Scholarship Program  
Suspense Dates**

**Due to the ongoing state  
budget challenges, effective immediately the  
ONGSP will no longer  
accept late applications for  
the Ohio National Guard  
Scholarship**

Academic Term	Deadline
Spring Quarter	Feb 1
Summer Term	April 1
Fall Term	July 1
Winter/Spring	Nov 1

**Please Contact Ms. Toni  
Davis at 614-336-7143 for  
further information**

## 10 quick facts about the new post 911 G.I. Bill

**1.** The Montgomery GI Bill is not going away and the rules governing MGIB have not been changed.

**2.** If you left active duty anytime before September 11, 2001, your GI Bill benefits have not been changed and you do not qualify for the Post 911 GI Bill.

**3.** The new Post 911 GI Bill does not go into effect until August 1, 2009. Any classes taken before that date will be paid under the MGIB payment plan.

**4.** The New Post 911 GI Bill is NOT retroactive. It will only cover courses taken after July 31, 2009.

**5.** Using the MGIB now will not disqualify you from switching to the Post 911 GI Bill later.

**6.** If you elect to switch to the new Post 911 GI Bill, your remaining months of MGIB benefits will be switched to the new program.

**7.** Once you switch to the new Post 911 GI Bill you cannot switch back.

**8.** The ability to transfer your MGIB benefits has not changed.

**9.** Several factors determine how much of a benefit you will receive from the VA under the Post 911 GI Bill.

**10.** The Post 911 GI Bill housing stipend is only payable to veterans and members of the Guard and Reserve who are taking classes **on campus** and are considered by the school to be **three-quarter or full-time students**. Remember, only the Dept. of Veterans Affairs can answer your person and specific benefit questions. Call them at 1-888-GIBILL-1 if you have questions about your GI Bill eligibility.

Please visit <http://military-education.military.com/2008/09/10-quick-facts.html> for the full article.

# STINGER

Vol. 48, Issue 4, April 2009

**180th Fighter Wing  
2660 South Eber Road,  
Swanton, Ohio 43558-9645**

## Command

### Commander

Col. Mark E. Bartman

### Vice Commander

Col. Nancy August

## Public Affairs Staff

### Public Affairs Officers

Lt. Col. Thomas Gee, Capt. Katherine

Cherolis and 2nd Lt. Tiffany Pasker

**Editor** Tech. Sgt. Annette R.

Kornasiewicz

**Photos** 180th Public Affairs

**I.M.** Staff Sgt. Timothy Andrassy

## Deadline

Deadline for the next Stinger is the Saturday of the UTA @ 3 p.m. Hand deliver articles to the Public Affairs Office in the Sonnenberg Complex or e-mail: [180.stinger@ohtole.ang.af.mil](mailto:180.stinger@ohtole.ang.af.mil). For more information call ext. 4014 during the UTA.

## About the Stinger

The Stinger, a funded Air Force newspaper, is an authorized publication for the personnel of the 180th Fighter Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, 2660 S. Eber Road, Swanton, Ohio 43558.

Contents of The Stinger are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, the National Guard Bureau, or the Adjutant General of Ohio. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 180th Public Affairs Office.

Presorted Standard  
US Postage  
Paid  
Fremont, OH  
Permit No. 282

To the family of...